

Pima County Superior Court Responds to COVID-19 Updated March 20, 2020

Pima County Presiding Judge Kyle A. Bryson, in response to concerns for the health and safety of our community, court staff, and judiciary, and through the mandates outlined in Arizona Supreme Court <u>Administrative Order 2020-48</u>, as well as those delineated in Pima County Superior Court Administrative Orders <u>2020-12</u> and <u>2020-13</u>, provides the following directives as to Superior and Juvenile Court operations in reaction to COVID-19 (Coronavirus).

Information for those attending court, visiting the Superior or Juvenile courthouses or its court agencies

The Pima County Superior and Juvenile Courthouses remain open. Alternative actions outlined below will reduce the number of visitors to our courthouses and court offices while safeguarding individuals' access to justice and Constitutional rights.

The Court respectfully requests that you do not come to court or visit court offices if you are ill or exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19. (Per the U.S. Center for Disease Control, symptoms may include, but are not limited to, fever, cough, and shortness of breath.)

Individuals who do so may be denied entrance or asked to leave as outlined in Pima County Superior Court A.O. 2020-12(B). Instead, please make other arrangements concerning your appointment at the courthouse.

Jury Duty

Regular ("petit") jury service is suspended until April 20, 2020. Individuals who have been summoned to jury duty between March 16 and April 13, 2020, are excused from jury service.

Existing Grand Jury proceedings are continuing with jurors observing social distancing guidelines. Current jurors who are ill or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 should contact the <u>Jury Office</u> immediately. Prospective Grand Jurors scheduled to appear on March 25, 2020, should NOT report. They will receive a new service date.

Those who have questions about their jury service should contact the Pima County Jury Office at 520-724-4222 Monday through Friday, between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., or email jurymail@sc.pima.gov. We respectfully request that you do not visit the courthouse.

Law Library & Resource Center

The Superior Court Law Library & Resource Center has transitioned to remote access, only. Law Library staff will respond to email and telephonic requests from the public and attorneys, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:45 p.m. Legal forms are available for pick-up upon request.

See the information on the Superior Court <u>website</u> for more details on how to access Law Library services or call 520-724-8456.

Attorneys

If remote participation is desired, Counsel should contact the judge's chambers. A complete list of Superior Court judicial officers and their contact information is here.

Parties to a Case/Litigants

If represented, litigants should contact their attorney and follow their directives.

If you are ill, representing yourself, and scheduled to attend a Superior Court hearing, please call 520-724-4200 to start the process of coordinating an alternative method of participation or rescheduling of your matter.

<u>Juvenile Court and Juvenile Services</u>

Certain hearings and proceedings will take place via telephone only. For a current list of these actions, click <u>here</u> or contact the Pima County Juvenile Court, at 520-724-2000.

- Family Drug Court will conduct telephonic hearings beginning April 1, 2020.
- CASA Volunteers
 - CASA volunteers who have cases before the court should contact the Juvenile Court at 520-724-2060.

Pretrial Services

If you are scheduled to meet with a Pretrial Services officer, please call 520-724-3310 or email pts@sc.pima.gov.

Adult Probation

Individuals referred for presentence investigation reports should report to the downtown Adult Probation office, at 150 West Congress, Tucson, 85701, immediately following your court appearance. If you are not feeling well, you will be scheduled to return at a later time.

Adult Probation (Continued)

Individuals newly sentenced to probation should proceed directly to the downtown Adult Probation office at 150 W. Congress, Tucson, 85701, to receive reporting instructions to a designated field office.

Individuals already on probation should contact their probation officer or the Adult Probation Office at 520-724-3800.

The list of Adult Probation offices and more information is here.

Family Center of the Conciliation Court (FCCC)

The Conciliation Court is conducting most mediation and conciliation matters by phone, and evaluators are holding parenting appointments telephonically, as well. Although existing Rule 12 child interview appointments remain on the calendar, FCCC has rescheduled family observations, future child interviews, and home visit appointments.

Individuals scheduled to attend a Parenting Education class or bring their children by for an interview should contact the Conciliation Court at 520-724-5590 or fccc@sc.pima.gov to determine the status of their session, and, if necessary, to reschedule their appointments.

We ask all individuals with currently scheduled in-person evaluations or classes to <u>contact FCCC</u> if they are ill or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.

Court Visits and Public Events

Courthouse visits and court-sponsored public events, including Court Night and Law Day, are suspended until further notice. Please contact the community relations office of the Superior Court with questions.

We encourage the public to stay informed by visiting the following websites:

- The Pima County Health Department: https://webcms.pima.gov/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=527452
- The Arizona Department of Health: https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/index.php#novel-coronavirus-home
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/summary.html

The Superior Court continues to work with local government and health departments, and the Arizona Supreme Court to ensure we are taking the necessary steps in response to the virus. Superior Court leadership will continue to monitor the situation while providing access to justice and service to the public. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

If the outbreak warrants court closure, updated information will be provided on the Superior Court/Juvenile Court websites.